

§ 230.38

will be used for documenting and evaluating accomplishments.

§ 230.38 State priority plan—technical assistance.

(a) Technical assistance includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Agreements with other agencies, institutions of higher education, natural resource consultants, or private organizations to augment or complement existing services of a State Forestry agency;

(2) Grants, agreements, contracts or other arrangements to provide services to landowners not offered by a State;

(3) Support of existing technical assistance delivery by State forestry agencies or development of such technical assistance;

(4) The development or application of new tools or technology for servicing landowners; or

(5) Similar undertakings.

(b) If a State determines that all or some of its funds will be used for technical assistance, the State priority plan shall describe:

(1) Who will provide the assistance;

(2) Outreach efforts directed at specific groups or categories of landowners;

(3) Expected long- and short-term outcomes; and

(4) Method(s) for documenting accomplishments.

§ 230.39 State priority plan—financial assistance.

(a) Cost-share financial assistance includes a wide range of activities and practices developed by a State Forester, in cooperation with the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee.

(b) A State does not have to adopt a separate FLEP cost-share program if a State cost-share program already exists that meets the objectives of FLEP. However, FLEP funds must be accounted for in accordance with Federal financial accounting standards. If an existing cost-share program is used, a copy of the guidelines for that program must be referenced and attached to the State priority plan.

(c) If a State determines that all or some of its funds will be placed into a cost-share program, the State priority

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plan must identify and describe how the cost-share funds will be made available to landowners participating in FLEP and expected outcomes and method(s) for documenting and evaluating accomplishments.

(d) The cost-share section of the State priority plan must include all of the following information:

(1) Describe any land ownership or annual acreage eligibility limitation under FLEP that is more restrictive than that established by the authorizing statute;

(2) Describe any limitations for cost-share of management plans;

(3) Define what constitutes a management plan if a State chooses to adopt more restrictive requirements than those established in this subpart; and

(4) Identify aggregate payment limitations to any one landowner receiving cost-share funds through FLEP.

(e) The State priority plan must also describe how funds identified for cost-share with landowners will be distributed and how cost-share rates are determined and established for each practice.

(f) The State priority plan must describe the application and payment process for landowners interested in participating in and receiving cost-share through FLEP (§ 230.42).

(g) The State priority plan must also address the following steps related to financial assistance:

(1) Application procedure;

(2) Approval process;

(3) Performance period;

(4) Cancellation of approvals;

(5) Certification of performance;

(6) Payment;

(7) Maintenance and compliance;

(8) Procedure for recapture of funds for non-compliance; and

(9) Appeals procedures.

§ 230.40 Eligible practices for cost-share assistance.

(a) The State priority plan must document and describe which of the following eleven categories will be made available to landowners for cost-share funding: